

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12206 200856Z

13

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 EA-13 COME-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 PM-03 SCEM-01 ISO-00

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 DRC-01 INT-01 OMB-01 /062 W

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R 200840Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6930

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12206

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, JA, ID

SUBJ: INDONESIAN LNG

REF: A. JAKARTA 10890; B. TOKYO 11991; C. JAKARTA 11123

1. A. H. MASSAD, EXECUTIVE V.P. OF MOBIL, AND LOCAL MOBIL REP RICHARDSON CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR SEP 18. DURING BRIEF DISCUSSION OF INDONESIAN LNG SITUATION, MASSAD NOTED THAT MOBIL HAD DELAYED ITS ENDORSEMENT OF PACIFIC LIGHT-ING CONTRACT BECAUSE IT NOT CONVINCED THAT ADEQUATE GUAR-ANTEES HAD BEEN OBTAINED TO PREVENT PACIFIC LIGHTING FROM SWITCHING TO LESS EXPENSIVE SOURCE OF NATURAL GAS SHOULD ONE LATER BECOME AVAILABLE. IN SPITE OF THIS MISGIVING, MASSAD SAID MOBIL HAD RECENTLY ENDORSED CONTRACT. MASSAD EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IT HAD BEEN MOBIL WHICH HAD ORIGINALLY INTERESTED PL IN PURSUING NEGOTIATIONS WITH INDONESIANS ON PURCHASE OF GAS, AND MOBIL HAD NEVER WANTED TO SEE JAPAN MONOPOLIZE ALL OF THE GAS.

2. COMMENT: THOUGH MASSAD FAMILIAR WITH CONTRACT DISCUS-SIONS, HE KNEW NOTHING OF TRADE MIN RADIUS ROLE IN NEGOTI-ATIONS WITH JAPAN AND ONLY VAGUELY AWARE THAT CONTRACT
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12206 200856Z

REQUIRED MINISTERIAL APPROVAL WITHIN GOI. MASSAD'S SEEMING

LACK OF KNOWLEDGE MAY OF COURSE BE RESULT OF POOR COMMUNICATION WITH MOBIL. ON OTHER HAND, IT MAY REFLECT MORE GENERAL MISUNDERSTANDING OF SITUATION BY MOBIL WHICH COULD BE CAUSE OF SOME OF PROBLEMS WE HAVE BEEN HAVING.
INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LPG, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO12206
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS INGERSOLL
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730920/aaaaaoom.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A. JAKARTA 10890; B. TOKYO 11991; C.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Nov-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDONESIAN LNG
TAGS: ENRG, JA, ID, PACIFIC LIGHTING
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005